

in their arms, they were unmistakably behaving as if they were mothers. This wish of the boy to have a baby is on the basis of his identification with his mother, and these incidents thus link up with the next section of the material.

It is not generally recognised that boys have this wish to give birth to children as girls have, partly because they do not, as a rule, show it quite so openly as girls, partly because we ourselves are prejudiced against recognising it. In the analysis of boys, however, it has become clearly established that this wish is always present in a certain phase of their psychological development.

The intense wish of the little girl to have a baby (that is, to be given a baby by her father) is clearly shown in some of these incidents. When Frank and Priscilla together sew "egg-covers" ("We're making things for when we're grown-up—really, we are!" and "We're going to be married and have some little babies") the wish has come out fully into the open. The intensity of the wish in the girl child, and her anxiety with regard to her hostility to her mother because of this wish, was clearly shown in Priscilla's behaviour whilst her mother was away from home. This appeared to the child a wish-fulfilment, i.e. her mother had (to her mind) gone away *because* the child had wanted to have her father to herself. The absence thus laid her open to all the dangers that come to the child who has no good mother, who has driven her good mother away. Her guilt and unhappiness about this apparent wish-fulfilment led her to be very difficult and hostile in school. The striking thing was the complete change of mood when her mother returned and brought her a gift of a large baby doll. This meant to Priscilla not only the return of the helpful

mother, but the mother's permission to have a baby and be a mother herself. Her babies would thus be good ones, since her mother helped her to have them—not bad as they would have to be if she drove her mother away and stole the babies for herself. Now, then, she could be friendly with other grown-up women, and loving and careful with all the other children.

It will be noticed that the children play quite a good deal, not only at the complete family situation, but at "getting married". The charming play of the children with laurel leaves and flowers, ribbons and confetti and bridal trains, photographs and wedding trains and parties, not only works over the real social situations connected with weddings